COMMUNITY

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EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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COMMUNITY

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Cineastas regresan a Detroit para desafiar la visión de Hollywood

Por Michael D. Gutiérrez

Durante mucho tiempo, Hollywood ha reducido Detroit a los estereotipos trillados de decadencia urbana. Ahora, los cineastas Michael John Dunker y Alex Ruiz cambiarán esa narrativa con "Love & Detroit", un largometraje que busca mostrar al público una visión más realista de la ciudad que aman.

Escrita por Dunker y Ruiz, "Love & Detroit" se centra en un agente inmobiliario de Detroit que toma una decisión crucial tras su tercer diagnóstico de cáncer: tomar un controvertido medicamento que acabará con su vida la próxima vez que duerma. Durante su último día, un reencuentro inesperado con su amor de la secundaria lo

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Co-writer and lead actor Alex Ruiz anticipates production of the film *Love & Detroit* during a recent Investor's Pitch. *El co-guionista y actor principal Alex Ruiz anticipa la producción de la pelicula* Love & Detroit *durante un reciente Investor's Pitch.*

Filmmakers Return Home to Challenge Hollywood's Lens

By Michael D. Gutierrez

For too long, Hollywood has reduced Detroit to tired tropes of urban decay. Now, filmmakers Michael John Dunker and Alex Ruiz are changing that narrative with "Love & Detroit," a feature film that aims to show audiences a more realistic view of the city they know and love.

Written by Dunker & Ruiz, "Love & Detroit" centers on a Detroit real estate agent who makes a fateful choice after his third cancer diagnosis: Taking a controversial drug that will end his life the next time he sleeps. During his final day, an unexpected reunion with his middle school sweetheart forces him to reexamine everything he thought he knew about what makes life worth

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Mexican Patriotic Committee Plans 60th Annual Cinco de Mayo Parade

Theme and Grand Marshals Unveiled for events on Sunday, May 4

The 60th Annual Cinco de Mayo Parade marks a historic milestone for The Mexican Patriotic Committee of Metro Detroit, a dedicated volunteer organization from Southwest Detroit. Every year, the committee works tirelessly to organize, manage, and coordinate this beloved event, celebrating their community and pride in their Mexican heritage.

On Sunday, May 4, 2025, Southwest Detroit will host a 2.4-mile parade honoring the Battle of Puebla, fought on May 5, 1862, under Mexican President Benito Juárez. His legacy of resilience, freedom, and national pride continues to inspire generations. The parade will begin at Patton Park (Woodmere St. & Vernor Hwy.) and conclude at Clark Park (Scotten St. & Vernor Hwy.). As in years past, the event will take place rain or shine, kicking off at noon.

This year's parade theme, "Past, Present & Future" (Pasado, Presente y Futuro), pays tribute to: the past – the founders of the Cinco de Mayo Parade, who created this legacy as a gift to their community; the present – the current Mexican Patriotic Committee, which continues to uphold and strengthen this cherished event; and the future – the future Southwest Detroit leaders who will preserve and carry forward this cultural identity for generations to come.

In honor of Mexico's first democratically elected female president, Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo, the 2025 Cinco de Mayo Parade will feature three distinguished female Grand Marshals who represent this year's theme:

- **María Guadiana** – A legacy honoree and daughter of José Guadiana de Campos, founder of the Mexican Patriotic Committee and its first president.
- **Alma Cruz** – The current president of the committee, elected two parades ago.
- **Alexandra Cruz-Velasco** – Miss Mexico-Detroit 2023 and former vice president of the committee, currently leading the Parade Registration Sub-Committee.

(L-R) María Guadiana, Alma Cruz, and Alexandra Cruz-Velasco will be the Grand Marshals for the 2025 Cinco de Mayo Parade

This year, the Mexican Patriotic Committee is introducing several exciting updates to enhance the Cinco de Mayo Parade experience. The celebration will showcase Latino heritage by highlighting the diverse Latino ethnicities that contribute to the rich cultural fabric of Southwest Detroit. In addition, a Parade Decoration Contest will be held, where all participants — including cars, walkers, and floats — will be judged on their decorations, with a Grand Prize awarded to the best representation of this year's theme.

To further enrich the festivities, the committee is waiving all participation fees for school marching bands, encouraging more student musicians to take part in the parade and contribute to the lively atmosphere enjoyed by the community and visitors alike.

For the latest updates and additional details, visit www.detroitcencodemayoparade.com and follow The Mexican Patriotic Committee of Metro Detroit on Facebook at @mexicanpatrioticcommitteeofdetroit.

The Mexican Patriotic Committee of Metro Detroit is a volunteer-driven organization dedicated to preserving and celebrating Mexican heritage in the region. Since its founding in 1923, the committee has organized cultural events that honor Mexican traditions and strengthen community unity. Signature initiatives include the Cinco de Mayo Parade, commemorating the Battle of Puebla, and the Miss Mexico-Detroit Pageant, which has empowered young Latinas since 1980. Committed to fostering cultural pride and engagement, the committee also provides community outreach and collaborates with local organizations to support Southwest Detroit's vibrant Latino community. For more information, visit www.mpcdetroit.org.

From 2024 Cinco de Mayo Parade. Photo by Alejandro Ugalde Saldoval

866-313-2520

HOMELESS HOTLINE

To ask for assistance for the unsheltered, call the hotline 24-hours / day.

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Cineastas regresan a Detroit para desafiar la visión de Hollywood

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obliga a reexaminar todo lo que creía saber sobre que es lo que hace que la vida valga la pena. Ruiz protagonizará la película, dirigida por Dunker.

Ruiz nació en México y creció en el área metropolitana de Detroit antes de forjar una exitosa carrera en la televisión estadounidense y las telenovelas latinoamericanas; ha tenido papeles destacados en ¿Quién es quién?, de Telemundo. Bosch de Amazon y 9-1-1: Lone Star de FOX. Para él, este proyecto es una oportunidad para crear algo personal tras dos décadas en la industria. "Hablo inglés y español a la perfección. Así que es como un área extraña donde pensaría que conseguiría un montón de trabajos, especialmente aquí en Hollywood, pero aún no lo consigo", dice Ruiz. "Quiero demostrar que, durante todos estos años de actuación, esta película tiene buenas posibilidades".

El guion evolucionó a lo largo de años de colaboración entre Dunker, quien aporta su viión como fotógrafo de set muy solicitado para largometrajes y anuncios, y Ruiz, cuya experiencia como actor ayuda a dar vida a los personajes. "Siempre lo escribí pensando en Alex", dice Dunker. Su colaboración se nutre de sus diferentes perspectivas. Mientras Dunker crea la estructura de la historia, Ruiz se asegura de que los personajes suenen auténticos. "Leo cada parte como un actor", explica Ruiz, "centrándome en el diálogo y en cómo se sentirían y hablarían los personajes". Para ambos creadores, "Love & Detroit" representa algo más profundo que una simple película.

"Cuando empiezas a conectar con quienes están muriendo, cuando les has dado la mano, nada material importa. En realidad, lo único que importa son tus relaciones en esta vida", reflexiona Dunker, quien se inspiró en su experiencia personal al escribir el guion. "Lo más personal de esta historia es que reencontré con el amor de mi vida. Mientras escribía esto, pensé: 'Si tan solo tuviera un día con esta chica, sería suficiente'".

La comunidad ya ha mostrado su apoyo, y los cineastas han recaudado 200.000 dólares de amigos y familiares. Incluso establecimientos emblemáticos de Detroit han acogido el proyecto: "El primero en apuntarse fue National Coney Island", comparte Dunker. "Dicen: 'Esto es genial. Para lo que necesiten de nosotros, tienen todo nuestro restaurante'".

Aún así, para completar su visión, se enfrentan a un déficit de al menos 300.000 dólares para alcanzar su presupuesto total de entre 500.000 y 1 millón de dólares. "Tenemos buen personal. Tenemos buenos productores. Tenemos un buen primer asistente de dirección que trabajó en Everything Everywhere All At Once… Simplemente no queremos ir y no pagarles nada. Queremos buenas cámaras. Queremos una buena producción… No queremos llegar a las tres semanas de rodaje y darnos cuenta de que no podemos editar esta película porque no nos queda dinero".

Fotos del video de presentación para inversores de Love & Detroit, del coguionista y actor principal Alex Ruiz. Los cineastas crearon el video en otoño de 2024 para mostrar su visión y potencial comercial a posibles inversores.

A pesar del déficit de financiación, Dunker y Ruiz se mantienen optimistas respecto a la tradición de Detroit de apoyar el arte local. "Realmente creemos que hay un inversor en Detroit que quiere sumarse a este proyecto", afirma Dunker. Para una historia tan arraigada en Detroit, creen que los socios adecuados están aquí, en su ciudad natal, esperando ayudar a contarla como se merece. Ofrecen múltiples maneras de formar parte de su visión. "Deduce tus impuestos, participa", invita Dunker. "Trae a tu familia al set, ven a ser un extra; vamos a tener que llenar ese Coney Island".

Para quienes no puedan contribuir económicamente, los cineastas enfatizan que difundir la noticia es igualmente valioso. Cada persona que comparte su historia impulsa un proyecto que busca desafiar la forma en que se representa Detroit y nuestra percepción de los momentos que dan sentido a las decisiones más importantes de la vida.

Con el guion escrito, Dunker y Ruiz están finalizando el casting del interés romántico de la película y aspiran a conseguir los fondos restantes en 2025. Ruiz mantiene la esperanza. "Sigo creyendo que si tienes el talento y la confianza suficientes en lo que puedes hacer, te van a llamar". Dunker también apuesta fuerte por la película. Si vendo un guion, voy a usar todo ese dinero para invertirlo en esta película. Para eso estoy aquí... Si esto es lo único que digo sobre este mundo, esto es lo que quiero transmitir. Este es mi proyecto y lo llevaré hasta el final. Y Alex es el mejor copiloto con el que puedo contar.

El viaje del guion a la pantalla continúa en www.LoveAndDetroit.com, donde puedes ver el vídeo de presentación de la película y... Encuentra tu propia manera de apoyar este proyecto local.

Michael D. Gutiérrez es guionista y cineasta con una década de experiencia en la industria cinematográfica y televisiva, y ha contribuido a proyectos como THE HOLDOVERS y LETHAL WEAPON en Fox. Es miembro activo del Writers Guild of America-West y de su Comité de Escritores Latinos.

EL CENTRAL Hispanic News está parcialmente financiado por Press Forward, el movimiento nacional que fortalece a las comunidades revitalizando las noticias locales. Más información en www.pressforward.news.

Traducción Carmen Elena Luna

Filmmakers Return Home to Challenge Hollywood's Lens

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living. Ruiz will star in the film with Dunker directing.

Ruiz was born in Mexico and grew up in metro Detroit before building a successful career in American TV and Latin American telenovelas – he's held prominent roles in Telemundo's *¿Quién es quién?* Amazon's *Bosch* and FOX's *9-1-1: Lone Star.* For him = this project is a chance to create something personal after two decades in the industry. "I speak perfect English, perfect Spanish. So, it's like this weird area where I would think that I would get a ton of jobs, especially here in Hollywood, but it's still not there," says Ruiz. "I want to show that all these years that I've had with acting that this [film] is a good shot."

The script evolved through years of collaboration between Dunker, who lends his photographer's eye as an in-demand set photographer for feature films and commercials, and Ruiz, whose acting experience helps breathe life into the characters. "I always wrote it with Alex in mind," says Dunker. Their partnership thrives on their different perspectives. While Dunker crafts the story's framework, Ruiz ensures the characters ring true. "I'm reading every part as an actor," Ruiz explains, "focusing on dialogue and how the characters would feel and speak."

For both creators, "Love & Detroit" represents something deeper than just another film. "When you start touching base with those who are dying, when you've held their hand, none of the material things matter. Really, the only thing that matters is your relationships in this life," reflects Dunker, who drew from personal experience while writing the script. "The most personal part of this story is I did reconnect with the love of my life. As I was writing this, I'm like, 'If I only had one day with this girl, that would be enough.'"

The community has already shown its support, with the filmmakers raising $200,000 from friends and family. Even iconic Detroit establishments have embraced the project: "The first person that signed up was National Coney Island," Dunker shares. "They're like, 'This is great. Whatever you need from us, you have our whole restaurant.'"

Yet to complete their vision, they face a minimum of a $300,000 gap to reach their total budget of $500,000 to $1 million. "We do have good people lined up. We have good producers lined up. We have a good first Assistant Director who worked on *Everything Everywhere All At Once*... We just don't want to go in and not pay them anything. We want good cameras. We want good production… We don't want to get three weeks into filming and realize we can't edit this movie because we don't have enough money left."

"We knew we wanted to showcase Detroit in a different way, and we knew we needed to make some kind of independent film that would make a big splash," says filmmaker Michael J Dunker, who spent nearly three years writing and raising funds for his passion project, "Love & Detroit."

Despite the funding gap, Dunker and Ruiz maintain optimism in Detroit's tradition of supporting homegrown art. "We truly believe that there's an investor in Detroit that wants to go on this ride," Dunker says. For a story so deeply rooted in Detroit, they believe the right partners are here in their hometown, waiting to help tell this story the way it deserves to be told, and they are offering multiple ways to be part of their vision. "Do a tax write-off, be part of this," Dunker invites. "Bring your family out to set, come be an extra—we're gonna need to fill that Coney Island."

For those unable to contribute financially, the filmmakers emphasize that spreading the word is equally valuable. Each person who shares their story helps build momentum for a project that aims to challenge how Detroit is portrayed, and how we think about the moments that give meaning to life's biggest decisions.

With the script written, Dunker and Ruiz are finalizing casting for the film's love interest and aiming to secure remaining funds in 2025. Ruiz remains hopeful. "I still believe that if you're talented enough and confident enough of what you're able to do, then you're going to get a call." Dunker is betting big on the film, too. "If I sell a script, I'm gonna take all that money and put it into this film. This is what I'm here for… If this is the only thing I say about this world, this is what I want to send out. This is my baby and I'm gonna see it through. And Alex is the best co-pilot to go on this with."

The journey from script to screen continues at LoveAndDetroit.com where you can watch the film's pitch video and find your own way to support this homegrown project.

Michael D. Gutierrez is a screenwriter and filmmaker with a decade of experience in the television and film industry, contributing to projects including THE HOLDOVERS and LETHAL WEAPON on Fox. He is an active member of the Writers Guild of America-West and its Latino Writers Committee.

EL CENTRAL Hispanic News is partially funded by Press Forward, the national movement to strengthen communities by reinvigorating local news. Learn more at www.pressforward.news.

How to reclaim money from Wayne County, according to its treasurer

Recent court ruling allows former homeowners to claim profits from county tax foreclosures between 2015 and 2020

By Koby Levin for Outlier Media

Detroiters: If you went through tax foreclosure between 2015 and 2020, Wayne County may owe you money. A lot of money, in some cases.

Don't believe us? Ask Eric Sabree, Wayne County treasurer.

In a recorded message, he gives a step-by-step explanation of how former homeowners can recover funds after the county unconstitutionally profited from their foreclosures.

"This is your money," Sabree said in the video message. "But you have to file a claim to get it, and you need to file this claim by March 31, 2025."

Recent rulings by the Michigan Supreme Court allow former property owners to claim the difference between the taxes owed and the tax auction sale price. Suppose a home was seized for $5,000 in unpaid taxes then sold for $20,000 at the tax auction. That $15,000 profit belongs to the former homeowner, not the county. (The county can deduct foreclosure costs and a 5% commission, Sabree said.)

In Detroit alone, homeowners stand to reclaim some $20 million linked to roughly 2,400 foreclosures, according to an analysis by Alex Alsup, vice president of research and development at Regrid, a property data company. This figure only includes homes believed to be owner-occupied at the time of foreclosure.

But many if not most eligible Detroiters have no idea they have a windfall to claim — and they'll get zilch unless they submit a notarized form before March 31.

The form is just one page long and available through a Wayne County webpage at https://www.waynecounty.com/elected/treasurer/auction.aspx . In the video, Sabree walks through it step by step.

Print out the form, grab a pen and press play, or scroll down for written instructions pulled from the video. Need help? Here's where to get free assistance making a claim: https://outliermedia.org/wayne-country-eric-sabree-reclaim-money/#nonprofit-help

- **Part 1: Applicant information**

Enter your full name and contact information. "If you don't have an email address, then give us the email address of someone that's close to you that can retrieve an email on your behalf," Sabree said.

Then enter your current address — where you live today. If the county owes you money, this is where it'll send a check.

- **Part 2: Property identification**

If the foreclosed property was in Detroit, start this section by entering the county as "Wayne" and the local taxing unit as "Detroit." The local taxing unit is the city or township where the property is located.

For the next field, foreclosure year, Sabree said it's OK to include your best guess. Just remember that it has to fall in the years 2015-20.

The address is required. Make sure it's correct and includes the street name, number, city, state and ZIP code. The form also asks for a local parcel number, which you can look up through the county's parcel viewer map. If you can't find the parcel number, that's OK, Sabree noted.

"Leave it blank, and we'll match it with the address. But you have to have the address."

- **Part 3: Explanation of interest**

Do you have records of a deed or mortgage for this property in the applicant's name? If so, check the relevant box. If you don't have a date or information about where the document was recorded, Sabree said it's OK to leave those sections blank.

Don't have a record of ownership? If you think you have a stake in the property because of a land contract, inheritance or something else, you can use the box in this section to describe your interest. You can also text REPAY to 67485, our TXT OUTLIER service, for help with these details at https://outliermedia.org/txt-outlier/.

- **Part 4: Certification and notary**

Don't sign the form yet — you have to find a notary first!

"You can't sign it and date it, and then take it to the notary and say, 'Oh, I want you to notarize the form,'" Sabree said. "They're not going to do it, because (you) have to sign it in their presence."

Bridging Communities, a Detroit-based nonprofit, is offering free support and notary services to help Detroiters claim their money. You can also text REPAY to 67485 at any time for help with the process.*

- **Submit the form**

Your form is complete, notarized — the whole shebang.

Now you can submit it through certified mail or in person.

To send certified mail, stop by the post office and say you want to send the form by certified mail, return receipt requested.

To drop it off in person, visit the Treasurer's Office. "That's 400 Monroe, fifth floor," Sabree said. "We're downtown, right in Greektown."

Staff at the office should stamp the form and give you a copy.

- **Then what?**

Once the form is submitted, the Treasurer's Office has until July 1 to let you know if there's money to claim, though Sabree noted that notifications could go out sooner.

Then you'll have until Oct. 1, 2025, to file a motion with the 3rd Circuit Court claiming the money. If more than one person claims the money, a judge will help divide it up.

If that sounds intimidating, remember that the whole process is free, help will be available throughout and the first step is easy.

"Fill out the claims form and start the process," Sabree said.

- **Get help with a claim**

If you or someone you know lost a home to tax foreclosure in Detroit between 2015 and 2020, text REPAY to 67485, our TXT OUTLIER service at https://outliermedia.org/txt-outlier/

Outlier Media is working with other Detroit nonprofits to help people fill out a claim form before the March 31 deadline at no cost. Note: Submitting the form is just the first step in a longer process.

Ready to fill out a form? You can get in-person help filling it out plus free notary services by visiting:

Bridging Communities

6900 McGraw Ave., Detroit, MI 48210

Open Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 313-361-6377.

MACC Development

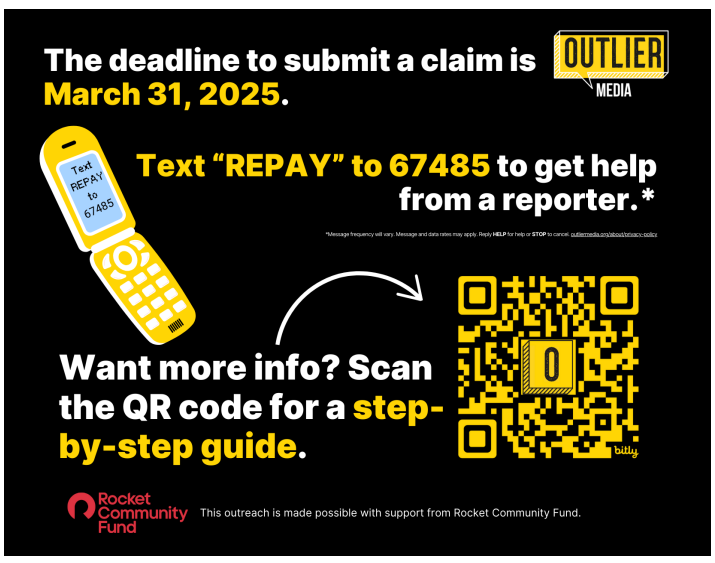
7900 Mack Ave., Detroit MI 48214

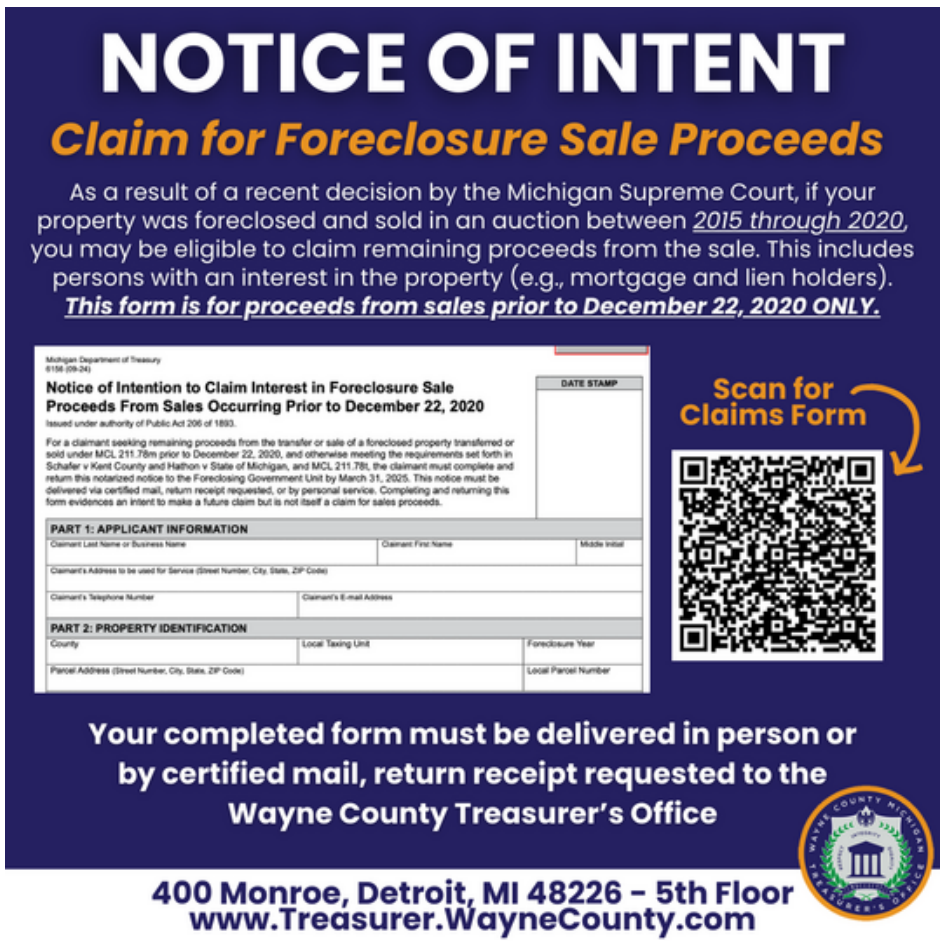
Open Monday to Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 313-732-9302.

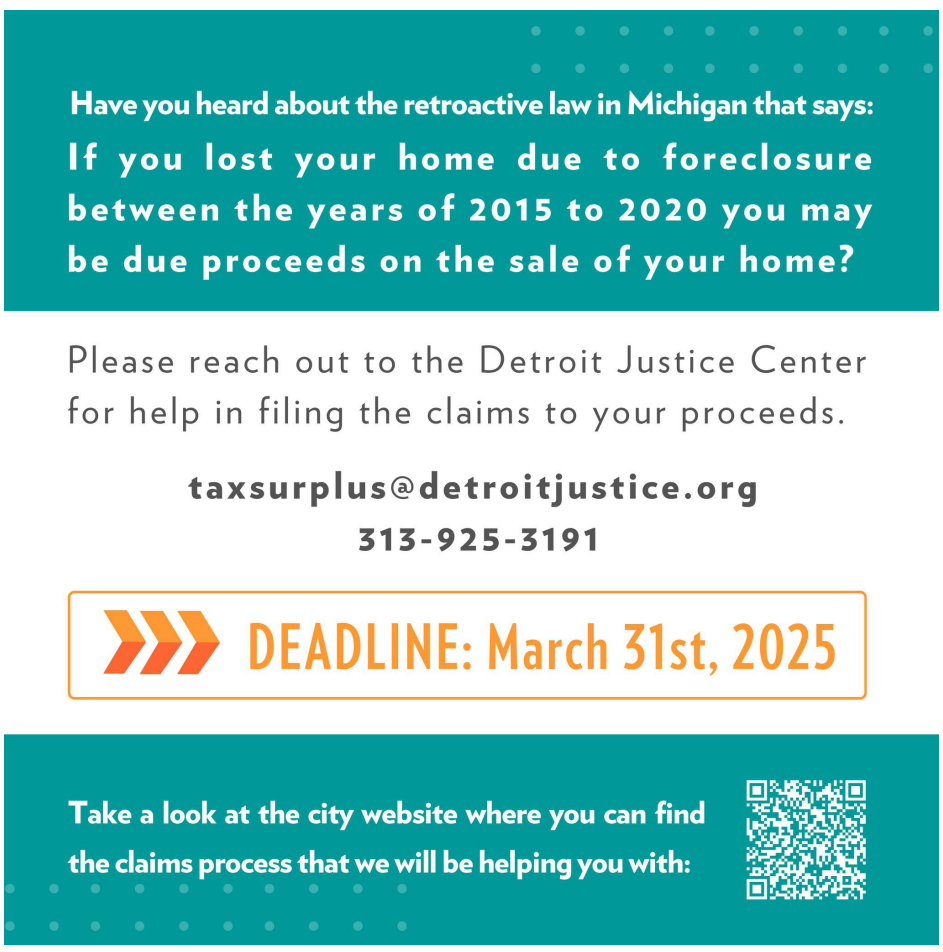
This story has been updated with current location information.

Koby Levin (he/him) believes curiosity is food for love, and love drives people to fight for their communities. He enjoys the many moods of the Detroit River. Email Koby at koby@outliermedia.org

Wayne County Treasurer Eric Sabree gave a step-by-step guide to reclaiming tax auction profits from foreclosures between 2015-20. For a video please visit qr code below.
Video credit: Cade Mirabitur, Sid Bostek, Bernadette Atuahene


The deadline to submit a claim is March 31, 2025.
OUTLIER MEDIA
Text "REPAY" to 67485 to get help from a reporter.*
Want more info? Scan the QR code for a step-by-step guide.
Rocket Community Fund
This outreach is made possible with support from Rocket Community Fund.


NOTICE OF INTENT
Claim for Foreclosure Sale Proceeds
As a result of a recent decision by the Michigan Supreme Court, if your property was foreclosed and sold in an auction between 2015 through 2020, you may be eligible to claim remaining proceeds from the sale. This includes persons with an interest in the property (e.g., mortgage and lien holders).
This form is for proceeds from sales prior to December 22, 2020 ONLY.
Notice of Intention to Claim Interest in Foreclosure Sale Proceeds From Sales Occurring Prior to December 22, 2020
DATE STAMP
PART 1: APPLICANT INFORMATION
PART 2: PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION
Scan for Claims Form
Your completed form must be delivered in person or by certified mail, return receipt requested to the Wayne County Treasurer's Office
400 Monroe, Detroit, MI 48226 – 5th Floor
www.Treasurer.WayneCounty.com


Have you heard about the retroactive law in Michigan that says:
If you lost your home due to foreclosure between the years of 2015 to 2020 you may be due proceeds on the sale of your home?
Please reach out to the Detroit Justice Center for help in filing the claims to your proceeds.
taxsurplus@detroitjustice.org
313-925-3191
DEADLINE: March 31st, 2025
Take a look at the city website where you can find the claims process that we will be helping you with:

Detroit Landlords Encouraged to Get Homes Inspected During Pilot Phase of New Rental Ordinance

Rental property owners in three-quarters of Detroit ZIP codes can now apply for a rental certificate of compliance using a simplified, well-targeted inspection process, under a pilot phase of the new Rental Ordinance passed by City Council in October 2024. The City of Detroit is urging landlords to use the new process and get their rental properties into compliance.

Properties in the pilot ZIP codes will undergo one safety inspection focused on the most common and serious safety issues seen in rental properties, such as ensuring the home has working utilities and heat, that the roof and plumbing fixtures do not leak, that all windows and doors have working locks, and that older homes do not have damaged paint that could be a lead safety risk. Properties that pass this inspection will receive a certificate of compliance. Properties will no longer require a separate Lead Inspection / Risk Assessment (LIRA).

Under Detroit law, rental properties must have a certificate of compliance to legally rent to tenants, a process intended to ensure that rental housing meets safety standards. In October 2024, City Council passed a revamped rental ordinance to focus inspections on the most significant safety issues, make compliance far simpler for properties in good condition, enhance penalties for property owners unwilling to comply, and offer tenants new tools to respond when their home has safety issues. Councilmembers Mary Waters and Gabriela Santiago-Romero sponsored the new ordinances.

"Every Detroit renter deserves to live in safe and quality housing," said deputy chief operating officer Andrea Taverna. "We worked closely with tenants, landlords, and council members to develop this new process, and we believe will result in a significantly higher number of rental properties being inspected for safety and coming into compliance with city code. The new process brings Detroit into line with best practices from other cities and states on rental housing compliance and safety."

From February 15 through May 1, 2025, the Building, Safety Engineering, and Environmental Department (BSEED) is piloting the new inspection process and will gather feedback from inspectors, property owners, tenants, and stakeholders.

Properties in the following ZIP codes are included in the pilot: 48201, 48202, 48203, 48205, 48207, 48208, 48209, 48214, 48215, 48216, 48217, 48219, 48221, 48223, 48224, 48226, 48228, 48234, 48235, 48239, 48240 (see map below).

During the pilot, property owners in eligible ZIP codes should use the following steps to obtain a certificate of compliance:

1. Registering your property as a rental in the City of Detroit eLAPs system
2. Pass a property condition inspection

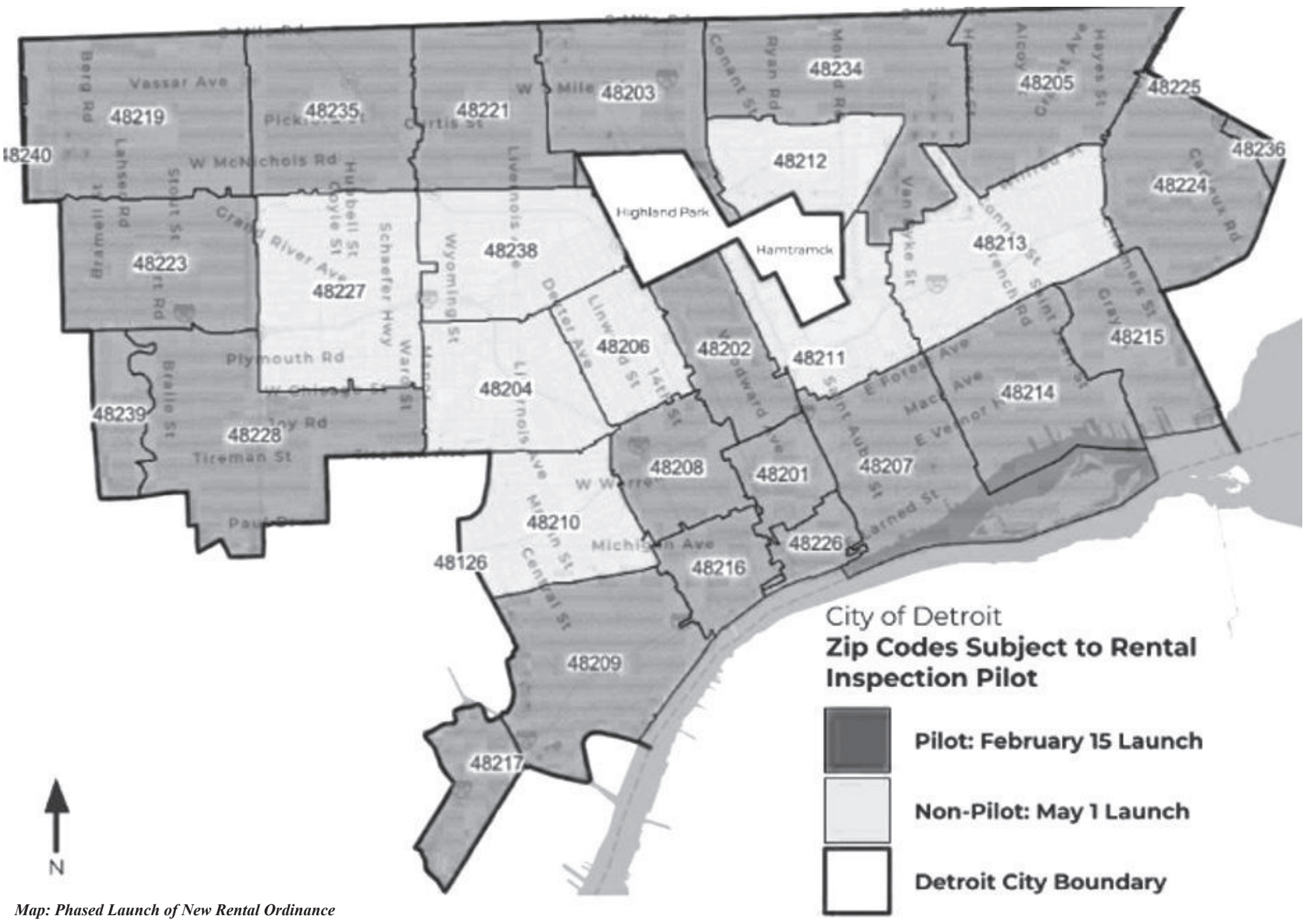
1. 1-2 Unit properties: Schedule with any of the approved inspection companies listed here.
2. 3+ Unit properties: Schedule an inspection with BSEED by calling (313) 628-245
3. Upload the passed inspection report via eLAPs.
4. BSEED will issue a Certificate of Compliance.

Old Rental Compliance Process	New Rental Compliance Process
Two separate property inspections lasting 4 – 8 hours: one for overall home condition & one Lead Inspection / Risk Assessment	One inspection completed in 1 – 2 hours, covering the most common & serious safety issues, including lead safety
Over $1,000 in fees, costs that landlords pass on to their tenants	$195 for single-family home inspection
Complex and overlapping list of 37 inspection components for home condition	Clear, standardized, and distilled inspection checklist of 15 points covering all major safety issues
100,000 rental violation tickets issued over the last 5 years but only 20 percent paid, meaning little real penalty for non-compliance	Landlords still have many opportunities to comply – but when unwilling to do so, City can file liens for the cost of unpaid tickets to ensure non-compliance has a real cost
Tenants only able to escrow rent with City program in narrow circumstances after submitting extensive paperwork	This summer, revamped rental escrow program will simplify and expand access

Properties outside of pilot ZIP codes should wait to apply for a certificate of compliance until the full launch of the new rental system on May 1, as detailed below. Here are the non-pilot ZIP codes: 48204, 48206, 48210, 48211, 48212, 48213, 48227, 48238.

On May 1, 2025, BSEED will complete the full launch of the revamped rental ordinance, which will open the new inspection process to properties in all ZIP codes and include features like a simplified application process, online inspection scheduling, and low, standardized fees. The full launch will also combine rental registration and certificate of compliance, currently two separate steps, into one single application to the City.

To receive email updates on the new rental ordinance, register your rental property at https://aca-prod.accela.com/DETROIT/Default.aspx



Map: Phased Launch of New Rental Ordinance

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The Hispanic Organization of Mortgage Experts (HOME) Launches to Empower the Hispanic Community and Strengthen the Wholesale Channel

Detroit, MI – The mortgage industry welcomes an influential new voice with the launch of the Hispanic Organization of Mortgage Experts (HOME), a pioneering movement dedicated to advocating for and elevating Hispanic professionals and homebuyers in the mortgage space. Led by industry leader Rogelio Goertzen II as President and CEO, HOME is committed to creating significant opportunities and resources for Hispanic mortgage professionals while driving substantial growth in the wholesale mortgage sector.

Rogelio Goertzen II, a visionary in the mortgage industry and champion of the wholesale lending channel, brings a unique perspective and unwavering commitment to the Hispanic community. Under his leadership, HOME will work closely with industry partners, including wholesale lenders, brokers, and real estate professionals, to remove barriers to homeownership and create pathways for success among Hispanic communities nationwide.

"We're committed to advancing the representation of Hispanic professionals in the mortgage industry and building a bridge for Hispanic consumers to achieve the dream of homeownership," said Goertzen.

"The Hispanic community represents a dynamic and essential segment of our nation's economy, and HOME is dedicated to ensuring that this community is equipped with the tools, knowledge, and support to thrive."

HOME's initiatives will include educational programs, advocacy efforts, and resource sharing aimed at creating a more inclusive mortgage environment. The organization's presence will expand nationally, with a robust network of members, partners, and advocates working to fulfill its mission.

"HOME is a game-changer for the Hispanic mortgage community. It's a platform that not only uplifts Hispanic professionals but also champions the needs of Hispanic families striving for homeownership," said Manolo Aláez of Safetrust Mortgage. "Through collaboration, education, and advocacy, HOME is opening doors and creating a brighter future for our industry and our community."

About HOME

The Hispanic Organization of Mortgage Experts (HOME) is a national nonprofit organization focused on empowering Hispanic mortgage professionals and fostering growth within the wholesale mortgage sector. Through advocacy, education, and a commitment to the Hispanic community, HOME strives to make homeownership accessible and sustainable for Hispanic families across the United States. For more information visit www.tunuevohome.com.

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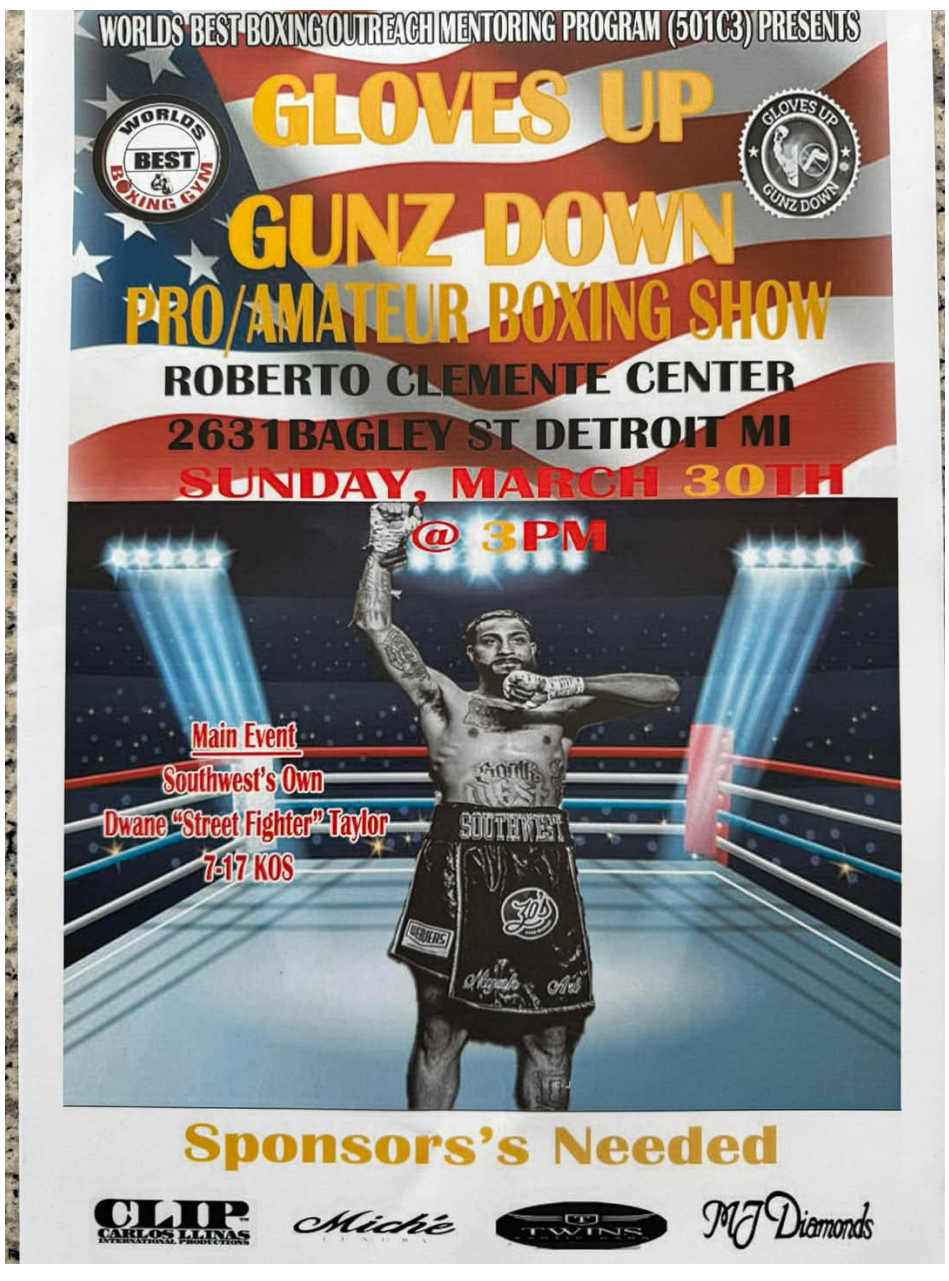


Diles que lo Viste en *EL CENTRAL*

Tell them you saw it in *EL CENTRAL*

Registration is open for CEDAM Real Estate Boot Camp

CEDAM's Real Estate Development Boot Camp is a multi-part training program designed to give you the tools needed to develop affordable housing in your community. From rising construction costs to new funding sources, our training curriculum is updated each year to provide context around the current real estate development landscape in Michigan. We bring in experienced speakers from across the state and country to discuss practical applications of this work and help you create important connections. Participants of our Detroit Boot Camp will benefit by hearing from local experts, including Detroit-based developers, consultants, and municipal leaders.

Boot Camp organizers welcome anyone to register for this training who is interested in understanding the development process. However, the training curriculum is geared toward helping participants move their community-focused real estate development projects forward. We encourage all participants to bring a potential project (whether it be a potential site or building, or even just an idea) to the training.

Our target audience is:

- Community members who are interested in revitalizing their community through small-scale housing development projects
- Nonprofit housing development staff who may be seeking to actualize a range of housing and community development projects

Our secondary target audience is:

- City staff officials, community partners, foundations, or others who may be involved in the development process in some capacity

Whether you are new to the field or need a refresher on the basics, this training is for you! Those who join the training and do not have a potential project will have the opportunity to collaborate with those who do when we apply our learning through a final project pitch to funders.

This is a fast-paced, hands-on training program. Because capacity is limited and demand is high, registrants must commit to being active participants and be available to attend all five days of the training.

CEDAM hosts this training twice a year, in both a rural and urban Michigan community.

Registration will close April 4, 2025 at 5:00 PM

About CEDAM

The Community Economic Development Association of Michigan (CEDAM) is a nonprofit membership association building vibrant communities across Michigan. Our capacity building programs, policy advocacy, and training events emphasize supporting communities in the areas of affordable housing, economic growth, and wealth-building at both the federal and state levels. Through engagement and collaboration with CEDAM members, policymakers, state departments, and other partners, we sustain a thriving and equitable community economic development sector across the state.

CEDAM PRESENTS
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT
BOOT CAMP
APRIL 28-MAY 2 | DETROIT, MI
Designed to equip emerging developers with the foundational knowledge needed to build affordable housing in Michigan.

Registration is open for CEDAM's Real Estate Development Boot Camp taking place April 28-May 2, 2025 in Detroit! We're thrilled to host this event at the Detroit Food Commons (above the Detroit People's Food Co-op), which has its own amazing community-centered development story and will be just one of many projects our participants will have the opportunity to learn about.

Register today by scanning the qr code for the real estate development boot camp

Funding available for Global Youth Service Day volunteer projects

The Michigan Community Service Commission is offering grants for Global Youth Service Day volunteer projects ranging from $100-$1,000.

The volunteer projects should be created and implemented by youth in response to community needs. Projects can be held anytime between April 1 and May 12.

Funding Levels and Volunteer Engagement

Funding is based on the quality of the project to meet community needs and for the project to create significant volunteer involvement with a special emphasis on youth engagement at all levels of the activity from planning, coordinating and implementing.

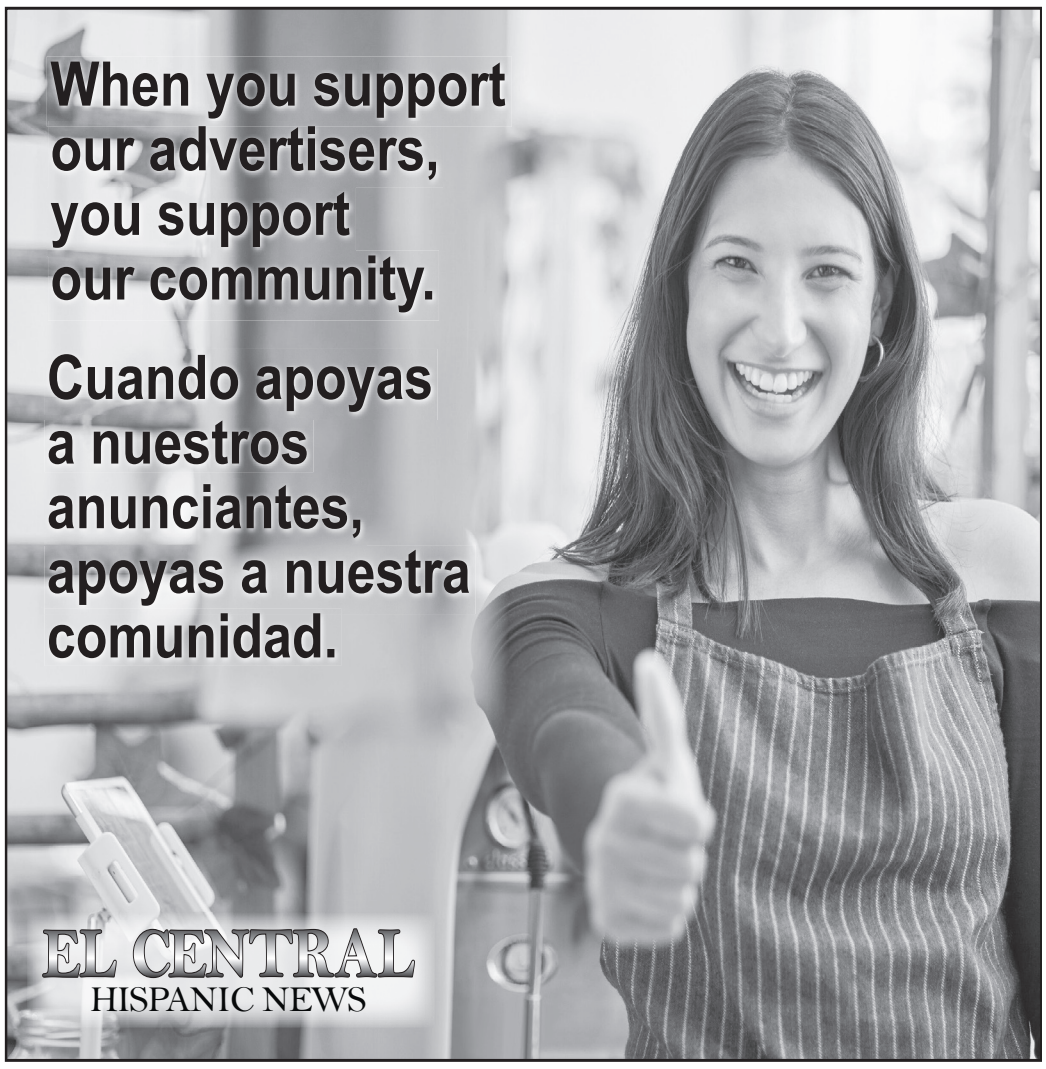
Eligible entities include nonprofit and faith organizations, municipalities, schools and universities.

Grant awards are available as follows:

- $1,000 grant to engage 150 youth volunteers or more.
- $750 grant to engage 101 to 149 youth volunteers.
- $500 grant to engage 76 to 100 youth volunteers.
- $250 grant to engage 51 to 75 youth volunteers.
- $100 grant to engage up to 50 youth volunteers.

Application deadline is March 21.

To learn more and to apply, visit the Michigan Community Service Commission website at https://www.michigan.gov/leo/boards-comms-councils/mcsc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EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS

Guest Opinion

It's time to pass FOIA reforms

By State Senator Jeremy Moss (D-Southfield) and State Senator Ed McBroom (R-Waucedah)

It feels like our politics are more divided than ever. But if you listen closely to what residents on both the left and right are saying, there is a common theme: A demand for a more transparent and accountable government.

Our legislation to strengthen the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) in Michigan achieves just that.

Through FOIA, the public can request the behind-the-scenes documents – emails, memos, agendas, schedules, and more – from their city or township hall, their school district, county officials, and state departments to better understand how the government decisions that impact them are made.

Who did your mayor meet with? What did your school board members send to each other? Did the county follow through on the issue you brought up? Residents can find all of that out through FOIA.

But shockingly, Michigan's law does not subject our governor and state legislators to those same record requests, thereby blocking the public from seeing the inner workings of our State Capitol Building.

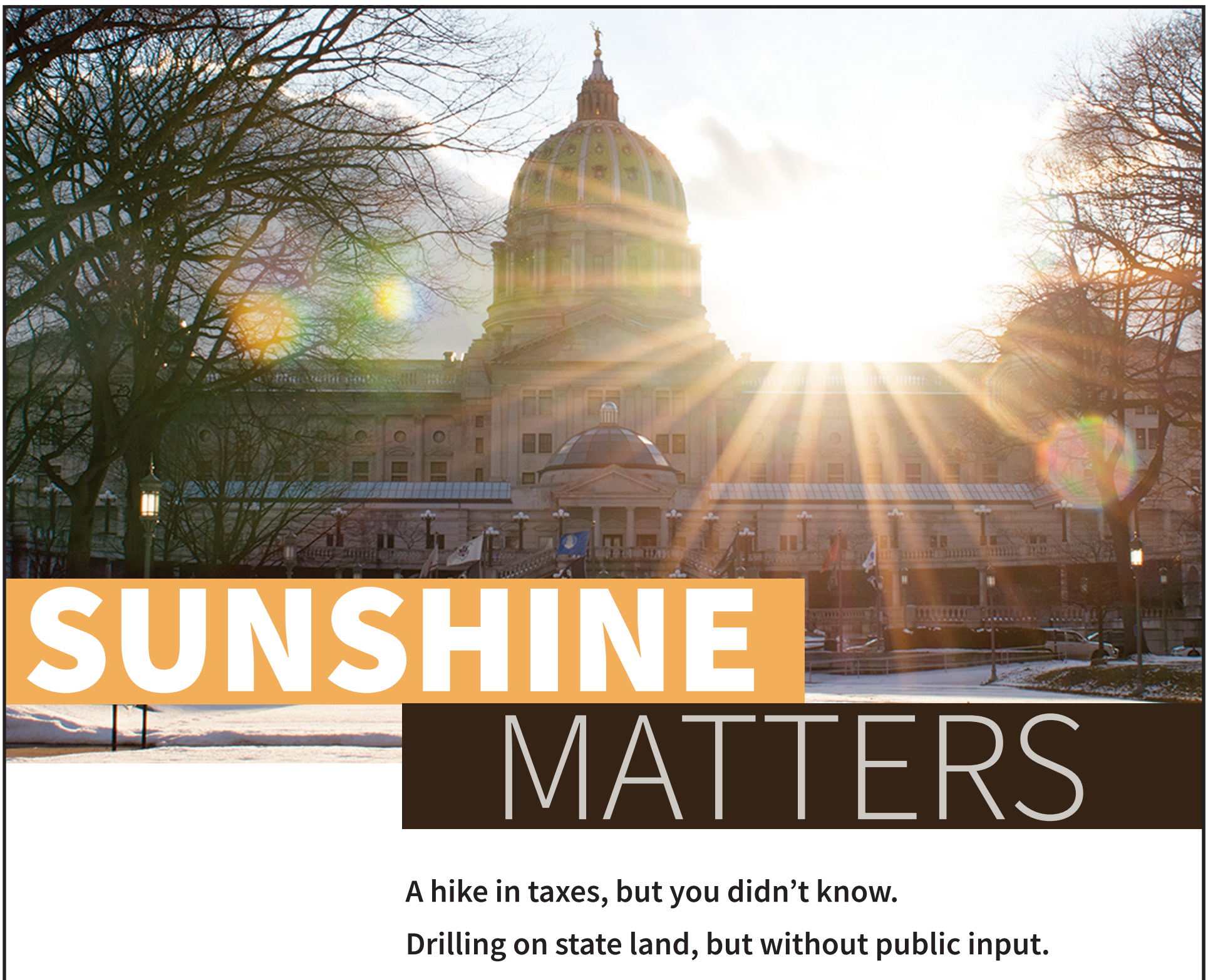
All 50 states have FOIA, but Michigan is nearly alone in the country with those outrageous and glaring exemptions for the executive and lawmakers. This contributes to why our state ranks worst in the country in government ethics. When state government officials operate in the dark, scandals in Lansing continue to persist.

Nearly a decade ago, as representatives in the Michigan House – a Democrat from metro-Detroit and a Republican from the Upper Peninsula – we joined together to introduce legislation that finally includes the governor's office and legislature in Michigan's FOIA to bring sunshine to state government.

Our bills passed in the House, but the Senate refused to take it up. Then we were both elected to the Senate, where we passed our legislation last year, but the House wouldn't move on it.

This year, we introduced our legislation as the very first bills of the new session: Senate Bills 1 and 2. They passed overwhelmingly in January and were swiftly sent over to the House, where they currently sit.

It's past time for the full legislature – Republicans and Democrats – to come together to act on these bills. The public should not have to wait any longer.



A hike in taxes, but you didn't know.

Drilling on state land, but without public input.

Toxic water polluting the community, but with no warning to you.

Sunshine Act and Right-to-Know laws prevent scenarios such as these by guaranteeing your right to access government meetings and public records. These laws ensure government transparency and accountability, the cornerstone of democracy.

Our journalists fight for access to government activity to keep you informed, securing your vital role in public decision-making.

Newspapers provide sunshine in the darkness.

Especial World's Cultures

Costa Rica

At a times like this ones when the world needs hope, Costa Rica represents this hope in part, as it is one of the few countries in the world that has not had a standing army since the Perpetual Neutrality Act was enacted in 1984. Located in Central America, Costa Rica is renowned for its landscapes, given the ongoing environmental protection efforts undertaken by various government projects. Approximately a quarter of its territory is protected jungles teeming with wildlife, such as spider monkeys and quetzal birds. It also encompasses its Caribbean and Pacific coasts, volcanoes, and biodiversity in general.

Poetry: Cristian Alfredo Solera

Cristian Alfredo Solera (San José, 1975) is a literature professor. He was a board member of the Costa Rican Authors Association.

He is the author of the following books: Traficante de auroras (Aurora Dealer); Nocturnal Itinerary of Your Voice (Nocturnal Itinerary of Your Voice); Tú no sabes nada de la ausencia (You Know Nothing of Absence); Ceniza (Ash); La piel imaginada (Imagined Skin); Creaturas alucinadas (Hallucinated Creatures and Other Poems That Lie); Poems Not to Read at Your Funeral; Useless Epitaphs; The Madness We Inhabit (anthology).

He has represented the country at various literary events, and articles about her work have appeared in various cultural and literary media.

Voice of Exile

On the Other Side of the Domes
I have a light
drawn by the insistence of its birds.

On This Side
darkness.
All dreams the same dream.
Every morning the same morning.
All people the same people.

I live and die on this island.

Sigue cada semana en
EL CENTRAL Hispanic News
ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO,
by Mariana Ayón RV

Basílica de Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles

The Basilica of Our Lady of the Angeles is the Patroness of Costa Rica. The Basilica for her worship is located in Cartago and is one of the most important churches in the entire country.

Costa Rican parishioners and devotees also call Our Lady of the Angels, as a term of endearment, "La Negrita" (The Black One).

It is said that in 1635, Juana Pereira found a stone with an image of Our Lady of the Angeles holding the baby Jesus. Juana picked up the stone and took it home.

The next day, when she passed by again, the place was very close to the spring. She found another one, slightly larger stone carved with the same image of Our Lady of the Angels. She again picked it up to take it home, but when she arrived, she couldn't find the image from the day before, no matter how hard she looked for it. This is how the first miracle occurred. In 1755, construction began on the altar that has been preserved today, even after the 1991 earthquake.

Our Lady of the Angels is known for her great miracles, and in August and September of each year, the most important celebration takes place, the Pilgrimage, when the Virgin is taken to the cathedral of Cartago and from there returned in a procession popularly known as the Pasada de La Negrita de los Ángeles (Pass of the Black Angels).

ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO

Costa Rica

En momentos en que el mundo requiere esperanza, Costa Rica representa un tanto esta ilusión al ser uno de los pocos países del mundo que no cuenta con ejército permanente desde que en 1984 se promulgó la Ley de Neutralidad Perpetua.

Se encuentra en Centroamérica y es reconocido por sus paisajes, dada la continua protección al medioambiente por parte de diferentes proyectos gubernamentales, así, aproximadamente una cuarta parte de su territorio corresponde a selvas protegidas, repletas de fauna, como el mono araña y las aves quetzales; así como sus costas tanto en el Caribe como en el Pacífico, sus volcanes y, en general, su biodiversidad.

Poesía: Cristián Alfredo Solera

Cristian Alfredo Solera (San José, 1975) es profesor de literatura. Fue miembro directivo de la Asociación de Autores de Costa Rica.

Autor de los libros: Traficante de auroras; Itinerario nocturno de tu voz; Tú no sabes nada de la ausencia; Ceniza; La piel imaginada; Criaturas alucinadas y otros poemas que mienten; Poemas para no leer en tu funeral; Epitafios inútiles; La locura que habitamos (antología).

Ha representado al país en distintos eventos literarios y artículos sobre su obra han aparecido en diversos medios culturales y literarios.

Voz de exilio

Del otro lado de las cúpulas
tengo una luz
dibujada por la insistencia de sus pájaros.

De este lado
oscuridad.
Todos los sueños el mismo sueño.
Todas las mañanas la misma mañana.
Todas las gentes la misma gente.

Vivo y muero en esta isla.

Tell them you saw it in Diles que lo viste en
EL CENTRAL
Hispanic News

Basílica de Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles

La Basílica de Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles es la Patrona de Costa Rica, la Basílica para su adoración se encuentra en Cartago y es una de las iglesias más importantes de todo el país.

A la Virgen de Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles como término de cariño los feligreses y devotos costarricenses la llaman también: la Negrita.

Cuentan que en 1635 Juana Pereira encontró en una piedra con la imagen de la Virgen de los Ángeles con el niño Jesús en brazos. Juana recogió la piedra y se la llevó a casa.

Al día siguiente cuando volvió a pasar por ahí, el lugar se encontraba muy cerca del manantial encontró otra piedra un poco más grande tallada con la misma imagen de la Virgen de los Ángeles, de nuevo la tomó para llevarla a casa y cuando llegó no encontró la imagen del día anterior por más que la buscó, así fue como se manifestó el primer milagro, de manera que en 1755 se inició con la construcción del Altar que se ha conservado en la actualidad, incluso después del terremoto de 1991.

Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles es conocida por sus grandes milagros y en agosto y septiembre de cada año se da lugar a la celebración más importante, la Romería, pues se lleva a la Virgen a la catedral de Cartago y de ahí se devuelve con una procesión denominada popularmente la Pasada de La Negrita de los Ángeles.

Michigan and Michigan State, Head to Big Dance !!!

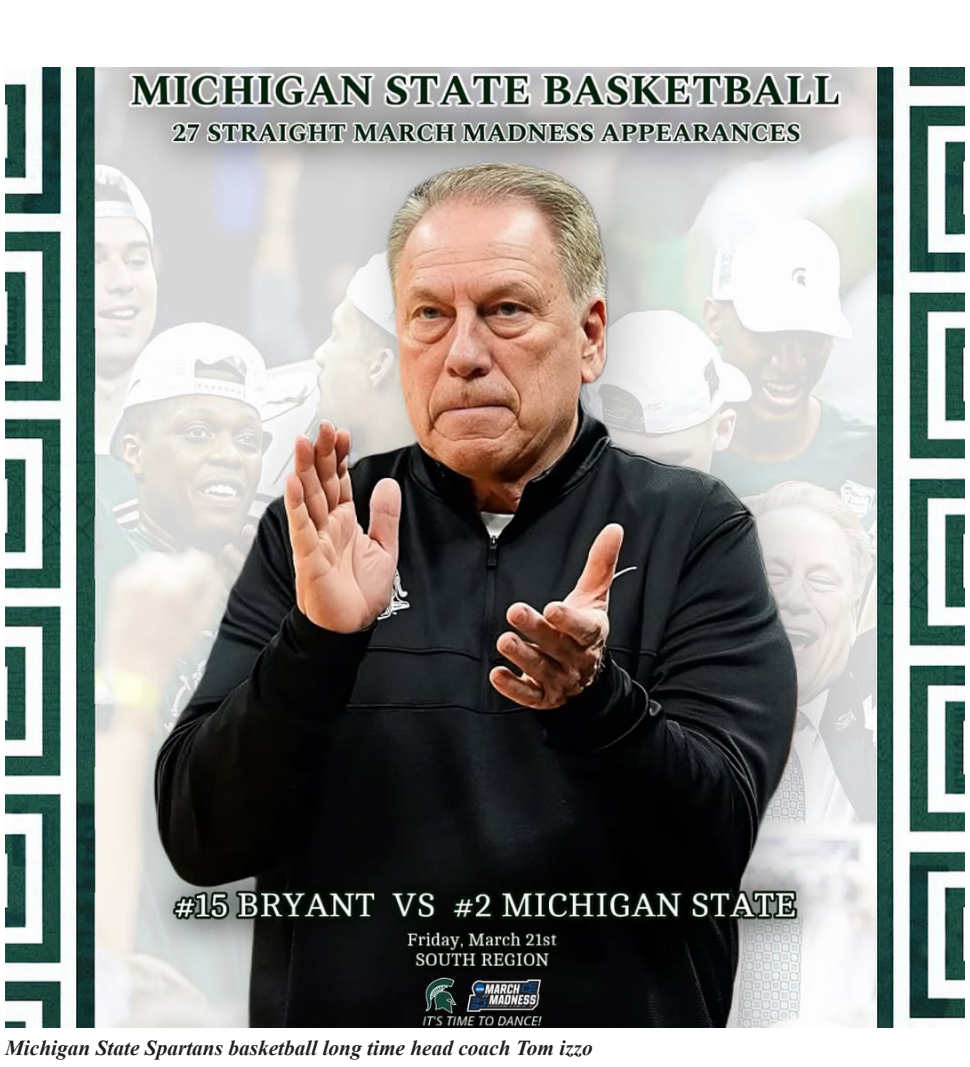
EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS

Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

Photos by University of Michigan Athletics and Michigan State University Athletics

This past Sunday, the University of Michigan Wolverines won the Big Ten Tournament Championship game, defeating Wisconsin Badgers, 59 - 53. The Wolverines are heading to the NCAA Tournament (the Big Dance), and will take on UC San Diego Tritons on Thursday, March 20th, at 10:00 pm in Denver, CO on TBS. The Michigan State Spartans are the regular season Big Ten Champions, and have also secured there place in the NCAA Tournament (the Big Dance). The Spartans will take on Bryant University Bulldogs, on Friday, March 21st, at 10:00 pm in Cleveland, OH on TBS. If the Wolverines and Spartans make it to the Elite Eight, they will face off against each other for a third time in the same season.

Photos below are highlights from the final results of the season and upcoming games



Michigan State Spartans basketball long time head coach Tom izzo

City Starting Hot Again

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS
Pateando la No. 5
SPORTS

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

After starting 2024 with five wins, Detroit City FC has come out of the gate hot again in 2025. Danny Dichio's team was expected to beat hapless Miami FC in the opening game, but traveling to meet the defending USL Championship champions in just the second game of the season would be a tougher opponent.

The task became more difficult just two minutes into the second half when Juan Tejada scored from a rebound to put the Colorado Springs Switchbacks ahead. Playing at altitude normally favors the home team, so DCFC could have been forgiven for running out of gas. That's not what this team is about, though. Much like the Detroit Lions of the NFL, Detroit City FC has become a gritty team that never gives up. Showing that grit, Le Rouge staged a comeback that benefited from a couple of fortunate bounces.

In Miami, the veterans led the team to a comfortable win. The new players made the difference against the Switchbacks. Striker Darren Smith got off the mark, pouncing on a misplay by the Colorado Springs defense. Captain Stephen Carroll's long diagonal ball, intended for Alex Villanueva on the left wing, was knocked down by a defender into Smith's path. He beat the goalkeeper to the ball and chipped it over him just after the hour mark.

Less than ten minutes from the end, Villanueva, a constant threat on the left wing, provided the cross that turned into the winning goal. Pressure from substitute Sebastian Guenzatti, another new signing, forced defender Duke Lacroix to turn the ball into his own net. In a game with very few clear chances at either end, DCFC made the most of their opportunities.

Dichio started the same team that won in Miami. Devon Amoo-Mensah remained at home with a minor injury. Shane Wiedt held his spot in defense and gave another solid ninety minutes, blocking shots and winning aerial duels. The new midfield held up for an hour before Dichio freshened things up with a couple of changes. He also handed club debuts to new signing Jordan Adebayo-Smith, a forward on loan from Minnesota United of MLS and midfielder Haruki Yamazaki. Yamazaki played in League One with Northern Colorado last year, so he would have found the thin air familiar from his time there.

Now the team gets ready for the home opener on Saturday afternoon (4:00 pm, WKBD-50). The Birmingham Legion will provide the opposition at Keyworth Stadium. They are coming off a 1-1 draw with Louisville City, having lost their first game 3-1 to Loudon County. The City faithful will certainly give them a warm Detroit welcome, as only the Northern Guard can.

USA MEETS PANAMA

Less than eighteen months before the World Cup, new coach Mauricio Pochettino has one of his few competitive games as the US manager. Meeting Panama at SoFi Stadium tonight in the CONCACAF Nations League semifinal will be one of the two high pressure situations the USA faces before the 2026 World Cup. The other will be the CONCACAF Gold Cup during June and July.

If Pochettino has little background on Panama, his players certainly will have plenty. The Canaleros embarrassed the USA at the Copa America last summer. Tim Weah's foolish red card cost his team a spot in the quarterfinals and led to Gregg Berhalter losing his job. Weah returns to the team for this weekend's semifinal and, ideally, the final.

Pochettino called in his strongest roster, knowing that he has few opportunities to work with his best players. There will be a number of players missing who are either injured or have only just returned to club play from lengthy absences. The Argentine can count on most of his core for these games. Christian Pulisic, starring for AC Milan in Serie A, leads the team. Tyler Adams and Gio Reyna have recovered sufficiently from their injury-hit seasons to feature for the first time under Pochettino. Matt Turner continues in goal in spite of seeing limited action for his club. Antonee Robinson, who is having a career year with Fulham, will be flying up and down the left wing.

The biggest question Pochettino will have to solve is at center forward. The top two choices, Folarin Balogun and Ricardo Pepi, remain sidelined with injuries. Haji Wright has only just returned from an ankle problem and was left off the roster. That leaves Josh Sargent of Norwich as the most experienced number nine. Pochettino has turned to MLS for reinforcements at this crucial spot.

January camp participants Brian White and Patrick Agyemang have both started the season in good form. They will want a shot to show their worth at this level.

Mexico and Canada meet in the other semifinal with the winners playing on Sunday night for the title. The Canadians, under American manager Jesse Marsch, will be confident and give Mexico a tough game. The Mexican team has had a tough time, turning to Javier Aguirre to right the ship again. He has called in veterans like Raul Jimenez for this weekend's games in an effort to end US domination of the Nations League.

The USA will start as the favorites, having won the three previous editions of the tournament. However, they cannot look past Panama given what happened last summer. Panama has nothing to lose and can take their best shot at the defending champions. Canada and Mexico are evenly matched and it wouldn't be a surprise to see extra time and penalty kicks at the end of that game. The winner on Sunday night will only have bragging rights until the Gold Cup in the summer, so any victory may be fleeting.

Detroit City Mens Wins Second Game of the Season !!!

Photos provided by Detroit City FC

Detroit City FC comes from behind to win on the road in Colorado Springs for the clubs second win in two matches.The scoring for Le Rouge was started by Darren Smith before an own goal from Colorado Springs put Detroit City in front.

Detroit City FC Le Rouge kicks off the home slate of the 2025 season on March 22, hosting Birmingham Legion FC. Kickoff is set for 4:00 p.m. Tickets for all Detroit City matches can be found at www.detcityfc.com/tickets.

For more information about Detroit City FC, visit detcityfc.com and follow @DetroitCityFC on X and Facebook and @detroitcityfootballclub on Instagram.

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS

Michigan's #1 oldest, largest, genuinely local and only bi-lingual Hispanic news. Minority (Hispanic) and woman owned. Multi-year winner of Jose Marti National Award for excellence in Editorial and Design. Published in Metro Detroit since 1988.

EL CENTRAL informs and celebrates Metro Detroit's Hispanic and Latino/a community and Southwest Detroit in particular and supports the professional development of local reporters and photographers who seek to enter the journalism profession.

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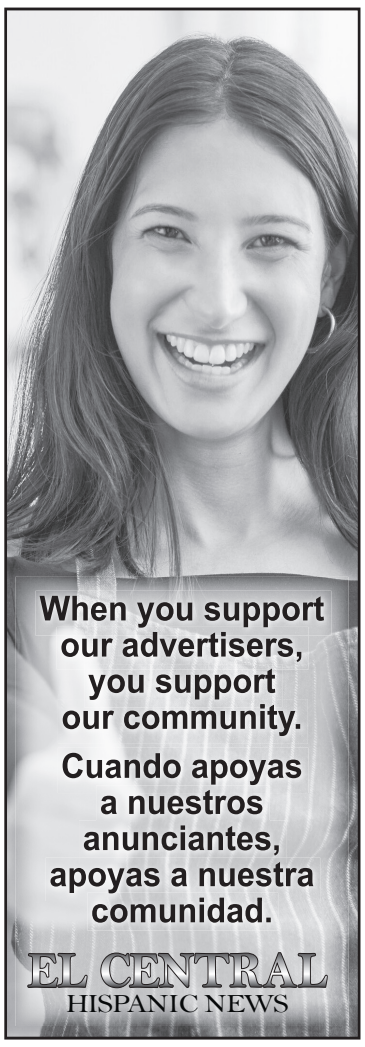
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2025
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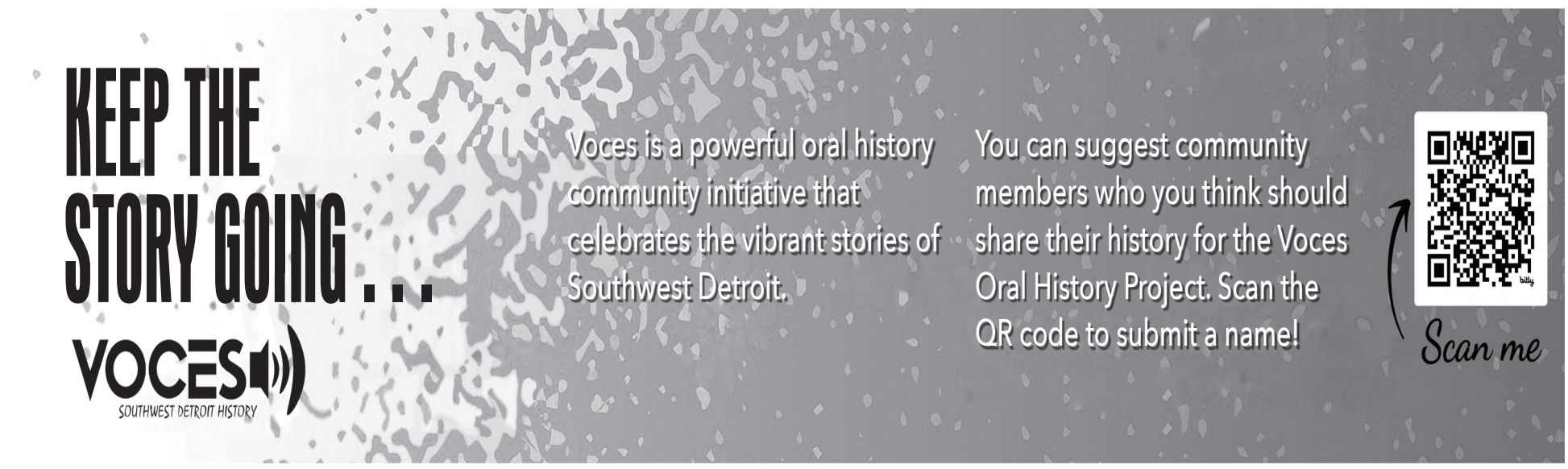
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313-842-3450
1721 Junction,
Detroit, MI 48209
Misa:
Lunes Viernes: 6:00pm
Domingo: 10:00am, 12:00pm, 6:00pm

Most Holy Trinity
313-965-4450
1050 Porter St.
Detroit, MI 48226
Misa: Dom 9am

Ste. Annes Parish
313-496-1701
1000 St. Anne St.
Detroit, MI 48216
Misa: Dom 10am

First Latin American Baptist Church
313-461-3669
2004 Scotten St.
Detroit, MI

St. Gabriel's
313-841-0753
8118 W. Vernor Hwy
Detroit, MI 48209
Misa: Dom 9:30am, 12:00pm, 7:00pm
Lunes: 6:00pm
Martes: 6:00pm
Miércoles: 9:00am

St. Francis D'Assisi - St. Hedwigs Parish
313-894-5409
3245 Junction
Detroit, Mi 48209
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Miércoles: 7:00pm
Jueves: 7:00pm

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EDITORIAL OPINION

Guest Opinion:

How to fight the Trump regime's use of fear and intimidation

Three rules for responding to his tyranny

By Robert Reich

The major weapon of the Trump-Vance-Musk regime is fear that causes people to be intimidated into silence and submission.

The regime is using fear — of being deported, job loss, loss of federal contracts, loss of access to sources of news, of arrest and imprisonment — to intimidate potential critics.

This is what all tyrants do, but we are unaccustomed to it in the United States.

I want to share with you three rules for fighting tyrannical fear and intimidation, gleaned from discussions I've had with a number of people who have lived in repressive regimes.

1. If at all possible, do not give into it.

Fear works only if people are intimidated. Intimidation is effective only if people surrender to it.

I cannot presume to tell anyone how to balance their personal well-being against their obligations to the nation or the world. I'm in no position to suggest that anyone sacrifice their livelihood or freedom to make a point.

So if you're a civil servant in the U.S. government, especially an attorney in the Justice Department, I can understand your fear that speaking out or refusing to follow Trump's orders will get you fired. If you're a journalist or editor, you may be justifiably fearful that if you report the truth you'll be barred from Trump press briefings or may even lose your job.

Likewise, if you're in America on a student visa or even hold a green card, you may be understandably reluctant to speak your mind now. Trump has threatened that the recent arrest of Mahmoud Khalil, the Columbia University grad student who is a permanent resident of the United States and who peacefully spoke out against Netanyahu's policies in Gaza, will be the first of "many to come."

On the other hand, if you're the president of Columbia University, you're in a different position altogether. I can understand your concern that your institution will suffer loss of federal funds if you allow full freedom of speech on your campus, yet that doesn't mean you should surrender to Trump's tyranny. If you do not stand up to it, you and your institution and other American universities will sacrifice far more over the long term.

If you're a Republican lawmaker, you have every reason to worry that if you vote against Trump, you'll be primaried in the next election. But that doesn't justify your silence in the face of Trump's tyranny, either. What's the point of being in politics if you have no principles?

If you're a Democratic lawmaker, you might worry that if you speak out — as did Congressman Al Green during Trump's address to Congress — you'll be tagged by Trump as a radical "left-wing" troublemaker. Good! Make good trouble, as Congressman John Lewis used to say. Stand up and speak out! Americans want to know there's a loud and vital Democratic opposition to Trump.

If you're a partner in a law firm that Trump has targeted for punishment because your firm has represented clients he deems his enemy, you should not be intimidated from representing others he considers enemies. To the contrary, hold a press conference and announce that you will represent even more people Trump hates, and you'll do it pro bono.

At a time like this, people who occupy positions of power and visibility — members of Congress, university presidents, top editors and CEOs of major media enterprises, senior partners in major law firms — must not cow to Trump's threats. Now is the time for them and their institutions to stand up to his tyranny — and be seen and heard by the public as exemplars of democratic courage.

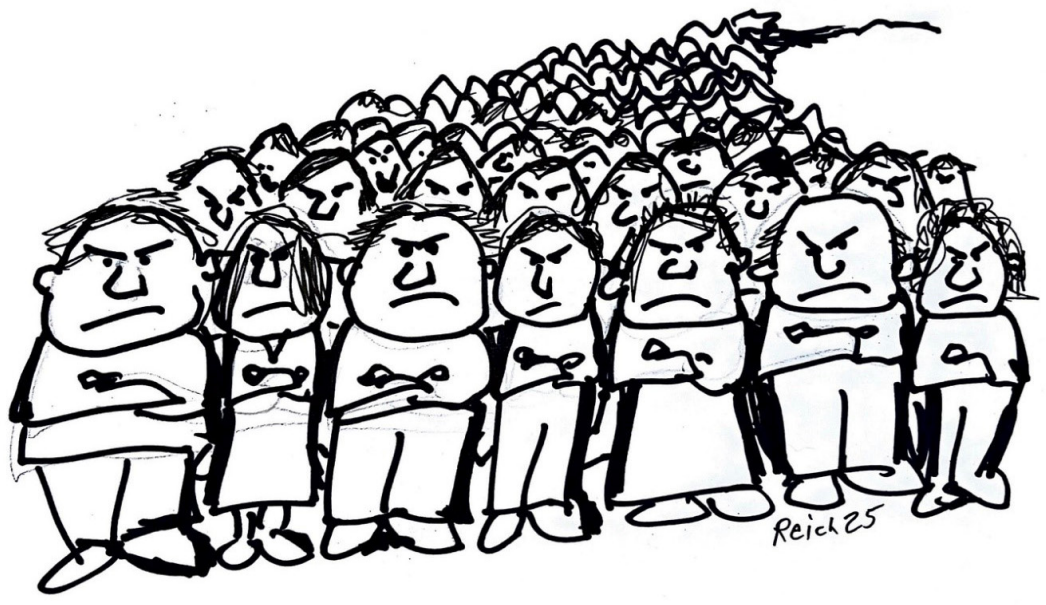
Giving in to intimidation only invites more intimidation.

If the Trump regime can "detain" a graduate student with a green card for peacefully protesting the policies of the Netanyahu government, what's to stop the regime from "detaining" full citizens who engage in such protest or in any protest against the Trump regime?

If the regime can silence Republican lawmakers by threatening to finance opponents in primary contests, what's to stop it from trying to silence Democratic lawmakers by threatening to finance opponents in Democratic primaries?

If Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer and other Democratic senators so easily surrender to Trump and Republicans on a continuing resolution to fund the government, how can they hold the line against Musk and Trump's illegal impoundments and mass firings?

If the Trump regime can



intimidate law firms that have helped Democrats or other clients Trump considers to be his enemies, what's to stop the regime from trying to intimidate anyone who funds Democratic candidates?

If the Trump regime can remove money from New York City's own bank account with Citibank, rescinding funds that Congress appropriated to house refugees (as has been recently reported), what's to stop the regime from threatening to remove funds from your bank account if you criticize the regime?

The fear and intimidation must be stopped. The most direct way to stop it is not to give in to it.

2. Join with others who are similarly situated to sue the regime and speak out.

Sometimes there's safety in numbers. When the Trump regime targets one institution or one group or one person, it may be difficult for that target to respond on its own. But when joined with others who are potentially threatened, the targets can fight back.

Rather than Columbia University fighting the Trump regime solely on its own, Columbia should also join with other universities that have been targeted and sue the regime for violating their rights and the rights of their students under the First Amendment to the Constitution. The group should also sound the alarm about the regime's attack on higher education and freedom of speech. (The American Association of University Professors would be one obvious vehicle for this.)

Individually, public servants who lose their jobs or who are threatened with job loss have very little power. But when joined together under the auspices of, say, the American Federation of Government Employees, the UAW (which represents many public employees), or the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, they have considerable clout. Together, they should sue the regime for violating the law and mount a major campaign to alert the public to what is happening.

Individual law firms and individual attorneys are more likely to be intimidated than the American Bar Association, which should now be an active vehicle for uniting many firms and attorneys against the Trump regime's threats.

Individual journalists or media companies are more easily threatened than the American Society of Journalists, the Society of Professional Journalists, or PEN America. Now is the time for these groups to be heard as well.

In sum, now is the time for a concerted and organized public response to the regime's attempts to sow fear and intimidation. National organizations with the necessary breadth and status must stand up to the Trump regime — loudly and clearly rejecting his brazen attempts to sow fear and intimidate opposition.

3. The rest of us must support these efforts.

All of us have a stake in stopping the regime's fearmongering and intimidation. All of us can help targeted individuals, institutions, and organizations take a stand.

To the extent we are able, for example, we can contribute to the legal defense of Columbia University graduate student Mahmoud Khalil, here. We can ensure that students and faculty know what to do if ICE comes to their campus, here.

We can contribute to other universities now under the Trump regime's gun — and encourage these institutions to stand up to Trump's tyranny rather than submit to it.

We can contribute to groups such as the PhD project, a nonprofit that helps students from underrepresented groups earn doctoral degrees in business — which the Trump regime absurdly claims violates the Civil Rights Act by discriminating against white students.

We can support the American Civil Liberties Union, Common Cause, Indivisible, and other groups that are showing the leadership and courage needed these days to take on Trump.

We can buy subscriptions to media organizations that are helping to lead the charge against the tyranny of the Trump regime (such as the nonprofit I helped launch and continue to work with, Inequality Media Civic Action).

We can show up at town halls where our senators and representatives are appearing, tell them exactly what we think of the Trump-Vance-Musk regime, and ask them to join us in opposition.

Finally, we can — and must — protect people who are being targeted by the regime. In addition to university students, this includes hardworking members of our communities who are being hunted down for not having the right documents to prove citizenship; LGBTQ+ people who are being demeaned and discriminated against because of their sexual identities or orientations; and public servants — public prosecutors, judges, and government workers — who are being hounded because they have done their duty.

Tyranny is possible only if people submit to it. The Trump regime cannot control us through fear and intimidation if we're energized, mobilized, and organized.

This is a time for all of us — and every institution in America — to stand up to Trump's tyranny.

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor

Do you have a contrary opinion? Write us at info@elcentralmedia.com

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DWIHN Raises Awareness of Innovative MedDrop Program to Support its Members

Partnership with Genoa Provides Delivery of Critical Meds with a 15-Minute Visit

The Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWIHN), in partnership with Genoa Healthcare, is working to better serve its members throughout Detroit and Wayne County with a novel community-based intervention called MedDrop.

Med Drop is a direct service program that focuses on improving medication adherence for adults who have chronic problems taking medications in the prescribed manner. Following and taking medication as prescribed is a critical component to successful treatment for individuals receiving care.

"Med Drop helps us directly support our members in the most impactful and important ways possible," said James White, DWIHN President and CEO. "Adhering to medication and prescriptions is one of the most important parts of treatment."

The program offers medication delivery directly to where the person is living 365 days a year. The designated technician is tasked with observing the individual self-administer their own medication.

Diane Cranston, Genoa Healthcare's Med Drop Program Manager stated "The Med Drop Program helps to keep participants out of the psychiatric hospital"

The technician will stay and help members by asking how the person is feeling after taking the medication and if they are experiencing any side effects. They will also assess the individual's physical appearance, behavior and speech.

In addition, they educate members about their specific medications and assist in identifying and implementing strategies to take medications as prescribed.

For more information and to see if you are eligible for the MedDrop program, call 313-696-0895 or email: meddrop@dwihn.org.

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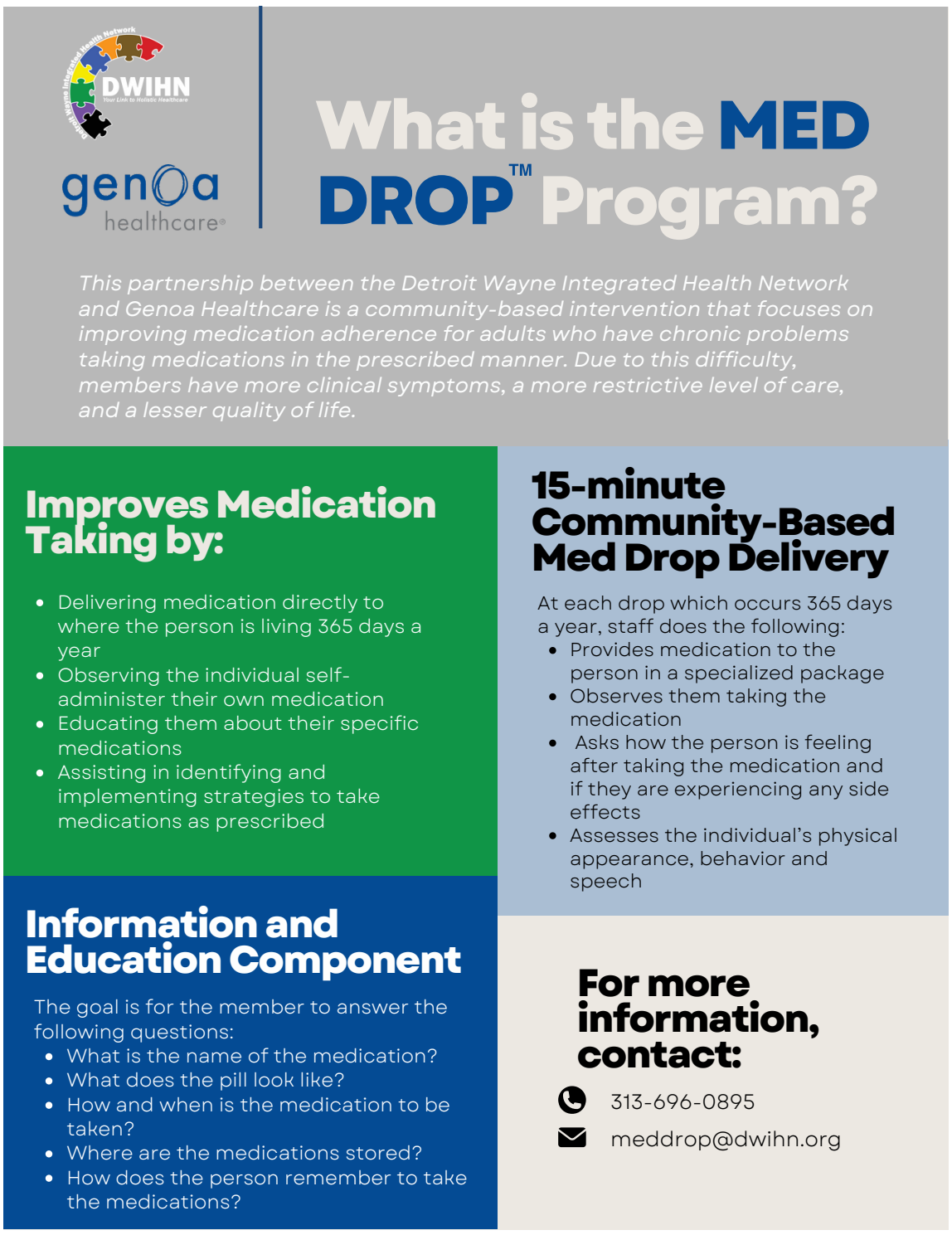
DWIHN is the largest Community Mental Health agency offering integrated health care in Michigan. Through programs and services that utilize promising best practices, we promote a community that is supportive and embraces people with mental illness, intellectual and developmental disabilities and substance use disorder. We offer help with Infant Mental Health, Supportive Housing, and Recovery to support self-determination and improve the health, safety and quality of life for nearly 123,000 people. DWIHN has recently been recognized as Crain's Best Places to Work 2024 as well as one of the Top Workplaces in 2023 by the Detroit Free Press. For more information, download the myDWIHN mobile app, visit www.dwihn.org or contact our 24/7 Access Helpline, 800-241-4949.


DWIHN
genoa healthcare
What is the MED DROP™ Program?
This partnership between the Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network and Genoa Healthcare is a community-based intervention that focuses on improving medication adherence for adults who have chronic problems taking medications in the prescribed manner. Due to this difficulty, members have more clinical symptoms, a more restrictive level of care, and a lesser quality of life.
Improves Medication Taking by:
• Delivering medication directly to where the person is living 365 days a year
• Observing the individual self-administer their own medication
• Educating them about their specific medications
• Assisting in identifying and implementing strategies to take medications as prescribed
Information and Education Component
The goal is for the member to answer the following questions:
• What is the name of the medication?
• What does the pill look like?
• How and when is the medication to be taken?
• Where are the medications stored?
• How does the person remember to take the medications?
15-minute Community-Based Med Drop Delivery
At each drop which occurs 365 days a year, staff does the following:
• Provides medication to the person in a specialized package
• Observes them taking the medication
• Asks how the person is feeling after taking the medication and if they are experiencing any side effects
• Assesses the individual's physical appearance, behavior and speech
For more information, contact:
313-696-0895
meddrop@dwihn.org

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Businesses and People for Immigration

If your home was damaged or you need temporary housing as a result of today's water main break, please call...
Si su casa resultó dañada o necesita alojamiento temporal como resultado de la rotura de la tubería principal de agua de hoy, llame al...
(313) 774-5261
CITY OF DETROIT

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Resources for Immigrants in Michigan
1 Know Your Rights
Find Michigan-specific information about your rights, how to prepare your family for enforcement, what to do if ICE comes to your door, and what to do after someone is arrested or detained.
bit.ly/MIRCKYR
2 Immigration Legal Services
If you are in need of immigration legal services, call us at 734-239-6863. If lines are busy, leave a message and we will return your call.
3 All detainees can call MIRC for free from detention
MIRC
michiganimmigrant.org

IF YOU SEE ICE

VERIFY THEIR IDENTITY AND PURPOSE

- CONFIRMING WITH OTHERS OR BY LOOKING AT THEIR UNIFORM THAT WHAT YOU SEE IS ICE
- CALL YOUR LOCAL RAPID RESPONSE NETWORK HOTLINE AND REPORT WHAT YOU SEE

DOCUMENT

- RECORD OR TAKE PHOTOS OF WHAT YOU ARE SEEING
- MAKE NOTE OF THE TIME, DATE, AND THE EXACT LOCATION OF THE ENCOUNTER

SPREAD AWARENESS

ONCE YOU VERIFY THAT ICE IS THERE AND WHAT THEY ARE THERE FOR, YOU CAN SHARE THE INFORMATION ALONG WITH EVERYTHING YOU'VE DOCUMENTED.

PLEASE MAKE SURE TO ONLY SHARE VERIFIED INFORMATION. THIS ENSURES THAT WE DON'T CREATE ANY UNNECESSARY STRESS, FEAR, OR ANXIETY.

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SERVICIOS LEGALES DE INMIGRACION

DETROIT

Southwest Detroit Immigrant and Refugee Center
Servicios: ajuste de estatus, solicitudes de asilo, trámite consular, DACA, autorización de empleo, Peticiones de inmigrantes basadas en empleo, peticiones familiares, naturalización/ciudadanía, P1 o P2 para Afghans, audiencias de deportación, estatus especial de inmigrante juvenil, visa especial de inmigrante (SIV), visas T, estatus de protección temporal, visas U, Peticiones de la Ley de Violencia contra la Mujer (VAWA)
Ubicación: 17375 Harper Ave, Suite 24124, Detroit, MI, 48224
Contacto: (313) 288-9904 www.detimmigrantcenter.com

International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit
Servicios: ajuste de estatus, solicitudes de asilo, trámite consular, DACA, autorización de empleo, peticiones familiares, naturalización/ciudadanía, estatus de protección temporal, Peticiones de la Ley de Violencia contra la Mujer (VAWA)
Ubicación: 111 E. Kirby, Detroit, MI 48202
Contacto: (313) 871-8600 www.iimd.org

Michigan Immigrant Rights Center
Servicios: ajuste de estatus, solicitudes de asilo, DACA, autorización de empleo, Habaes Corpus. NACARA, naturalización/ciudadanía, audiencias de deportación, estatus especial de inmigrante juvenil, visas T, estatus de protección temporal, visas U, Peticiones de la Ley de Violencia contra la Mujer (VAWA)
Ubicación: 7700 Second Avenue, Suite 603, Detroit, MI 48202
Contacto: (734) 239-6863 www.michiganimmigrant.org

Freedom House Detroit
Servicios: solicitudes de asilo
Ubicación: 1777 N. Rademacher, Detroit, MI, 48209
Contacto: (313) 964-4320 www.freedomhouse.org

Michigan United- East (Detroit Office)
Servicios: DACA, naturalization/citizenship
Ubicación: 4405 Wesson Street, Detroit, MI 48210
Contacto: (248) 509-4430 www.miunited.org

SI VES A ICE

VERIFIQUE SU IDENTIDAD Y PROPÓSITO

- CONFIRME CON OTRAS PERSONAS U OBSERVE QUE EL UNIFORME DEL OFICIAL SEA CORRECTO
- LLAME A LA LÍNEA DIRECTA DE LA RED LOCAL DE RESPUESTA RÁPIDA Y DENUNCIA LO QUE VE

DOCUMENTE

- GRABE O TOME FOTOS DE LO QUE ESTA SUCEDIENDO
- TOME NOTA DE LA HORA, FECHA ,Y LUGAR EXACTO DEL ENCUENTRO

DIFUNDA CONCIENCIA

UNA VEZ QUE VERIFIQUE QUE INMIGRACIÓN ESTÁ AHÍ Y LA RAZON POR LA QUÉ ESTA AHÍ, PUEDE COMPARTIR LA INFORMACIÓN JUNTO CON TODO LO QUE HA DOCUMENTADO.

POR FAVOR, ASEGÚRESE DE COMPARTIR SÓLO INFORMACIÓN VERIDICA. ESTO GARANTIZA NO CREAR ESTRES, MIEDO, NI ANSIEDAD INNECESARIOS

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Recursos para Inmigrantes en Michigan
1 Conozca sus Derechos
Aquí encontrará información específica de Michigan sobre sus derechos, cómo preparar a su familia para la aplicación de la ley, qué hacer si ICE viene a su puerta y qué hacer después de que alguien sea arrestado o detenido.
bit.ly/MIRCKYR
2 Servicios legales de inmigración
Si necesita servicios legales de inmigración, llámenos al 734-239-6863. Si las líneas están ocupadas, deje un mensaje y le devolveremos la llamada.
3 Todos los detenidos pueden llamar a MIRC por gratis desde el centro de detención
MIRC
michiganimmigrant.org

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Wayne County Treasurer Eric Sabree

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Available to everybody, this plan allows a taxpayer to pay taxes pursuant to a payment schedule. The plan will avoid foreclosure provided that payments are submitted per the agreed upon schedule.

Pay As You Stay Payment Agreement (PAYSPA)

Only for those who have first applied for their local municipality's Poverty Tax Exemption (PTE) and received an approval. Once notified by your local Assessor's office and deemed eligible, our office will mail you a notification letter with your Reduced Amount Due. You will have the option of paying a lump sum (additional 10% off) or enrolling into a PAYSPA.

Many of these plans are available online at treasurer.waynecounty.com!

For more information email WCTOPaymentPlans@waynecounty.com or call (313) 224-5990.